

Program Preferences

This attachment addresses the program preferences described in Section II.F of the IRWM Guidelines.

Include regional projects or programs

All the projects in the proposal benefit the region. However, two of the proposed projects will provide regional water conveyance facilities that will enhance water supply reliability for significant portions of the region. The City of Tracy Water Recycling Project will assure that recycled urban wastewater produced by the city is beneficially reused. This will be accomplished by constructing a recycled water distribution system that transports recycled water from the city to surrounding areas for use in irrigation. The project will offset current demands for surface water used for irrigation. The second project will fund a project that allows the WSID and DPWD to construct surface water conveyance facilities to move water through a significant portion of the region. Specifically, the project will allow for maximizing opportunities to take advantage of seasonal and other circumstances to better manage water supply flows.

The other two projects in the proposal will benefit specific DACs, and in turn provide water supply and quality benefits to those communities that will provide economic benefits to the broader region. Both the structural benefits of the conveyances, and the DAC benefits, of the projects are contingent on funding through this proposal. The DAC City of Firebaugh will be replacing Well #7 that is currently not adequately producing and is contaminated with arsenic. The DAC City of San Joaquin, meanwhile, will be implementing a project to install water meters for 70% of its residential customers.

Effectively integrate water management programs and projects within a hydrologic region

All four of the projects included in this proposal are in the San Joaquin hydrologic region as identified by the State of California.

The City of Tracy, and WSID and DPWD projects are excellent examples of projects that effectively integrate water management programs within the San Joaquin hydrologic region.

The City of Tracy Water Recycling Project enables highly treated recycled waste wastewater to be used for meeting irrigation water supply needs within the hydrologic region by constructing a recycled water distribution system. The project provides a water management benefit to the region as it reduces the amount of treated wastewater that would otherwise be discharged. The second regional benefit is that the project replaces the demand for surface water deliveries to be used for irrigation purposes. Finally, this project will benefit not just the region, but the State as it complies with the water use efficiency requirements to SBX7 7.

The WSID and DPWD project also provides a high value to the hydrologic region through new water conveyance infrastructure. This infrastructure will allow surface water passing through the region to be conveyed in a fashion that maximizes the ability to take advantage of changing water supply opportunities.

The DAC projects will provide benefits to two of the most economically disadvantaged communities in the hydrologic region. The City of Firebaugh Well # 7 Replacement Project will provide both water reliability and water quality benefits to that community. The City of San Joaquin Water Meter Installation Project, meanwhile, is projected to result in a 20% reduction in water consumption for the 70% of residential customers to receive meters. That saving will benefit the disadvantaged community, the City of San Joaquin, the hydrologic region, and the State as it complies with SBX7 7.

Effectively resolve significant water-related conflicts within or between regions

The DAC projects for the Cities of Firebaugh and San Joaquin will both help to resolve the conflict between some of the very economically disadvantaged on the communities on the San Joaquin Valley's Westside and other regions in the State. The projects in this proposal will be the first time any IRWM funding has been used in the region to address DAC needs. Funding the projects will help resolve potential conflicts between these DACs and other water users in the region.

The conveyance projects for the City of Tracy, and WSID and DPWD will help address water supply imbalances in the region, and the conflicts that arise from those imbalances. The City of Tracy will provide recycled water to offset demand for surface water deliveries. That reduction in delivery request will allow for surface water supplies to be used to meet the demands of other users and reduce the potential for conflict. The WSID and DPWD project will maximize the use of surface water supplies by taking advantage of supply opportunities. The improved water management opportunities that result from construction of the facilities will reduce conflict and competition for limited water supplies both within and outside the region.

Contribute to one or more of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program objectives

Water Quality

The DAC City of Firebaugh Well # 7 Replacement Project will have direct water quality benefits for its residents as the current well suffers from arsenic intrusion.

The City of Tracy Recycled Water Project will have a positive impact on Bay-Delta water quality as it reduces the amount of treated urban wastewater discharged. Instead the wastewater is recycled and used for beneficial purposes.

Levees

The four projects in the proposal do not specifically address Delta levees.

Water Supply

All four of the projects included in the proposal address water supply to some extent.

The City of Firebaugh project will allow the community to rely on a local water supply source rather than seek to put an additional demand for water supply on the Delta.

The City of San Joaquin project will increase water use efficiency and reduce the potential that they will need to seek additional water supply from the Delta.

The City of Tracy project will increase the beneficial use of recycled water to off-set the demand of surface water from the Delta.

The WSID and DPWD project will be a partnership that allows for the increase of water supplies and more efficient and flexible use of water resources.

Ecosystem Restoration

None of the four projects in the proposal contribute to the ecosystem restoration objective.

Address critical water supply or water quality needs of disadvantaged communities within the region

The DAC projects in the proposal will provide benefits to two of the most economically disadvantaged communities in the State. The City of Firebaugh Well # 7 Replacement Project will provide both water reliability and water quality benefits to that community. The City of San Joaquin Water Meter Installation Project, meanwhile, is projected to result in a 20% reduction in water consumption for the 70% of residential customers to receive meters. That saving will benefit the disadvantaged community, the City of San Joaquin, the hydrologic region, and the State as it complies with SBX7 7.

Effectively integrate water management with land use planning

Because three of the projects are proposed by cities, they are already consistent with applicable municipal land use planning requirements. The City of Firebaugh project will be designed to meet future water demands consistent with its municipal planning projections. The City of San Joaquin will consider the projected 20% reduction in consumption for its customers receiving water meters in future land use planning. The City of Tracy will consider that the use of recycled water for irrigation purposes will decrease demand for surface water, and can plan accordingly.

Address Statewide priorities

Drought Preparedness

Three of the project are consistent with the definition for drought preparedness.

The City of San Joaquin will implement a water meter installation program for 70% of its residential users projected to reduce consumption by those customers by 20%. The City of Tracy will construct a recycled water distribution system that will maximize opportunities to beneficially use high treated urban wastewater for irrigation purposes. Both of these projects will benefit the communities they serve and the entire State as they will reduce potential water demands during drought.

The WSID and DPWD project will establish interties and storage facilities that will allow the region to maximize opportunities to receive water supplies during times of drought.

Use and Reuse Water More Efficiently

Two of the projects are directly related to water use efficiency. The City of San Joaquin will implement a water meter installation program for 70% of its residential users project to reduce consumption by those customers by 20%. The City of Tracy will construct a recycled water distribution system that will maximize opportunities to beneficially use high treated urban wastewater for irrigation purposes. Both of these projects will benefit the communities they serve and the entire State as they will reduce potential water demands.

Protect Surface Water and Groundwater Quality

The City of Tracy Recycled Water Project will have a potential positive impact on surface and groundwater quality as it reduces the amount of treated urban wastewater discharged. Instead the wastewater will be recycled and used for beneficial purposes

Ensure Equitable Distribution of Benefits

The WIWRP Update Stakeholder Group has made extensive efforts to involve DACs in the stakeholder process and identify opportunities for their projects to be included in funding proposal. In fact, two of the four projects in this proposal will directly benefit DACs. The Stakeholder Group has also encouraged its DAC members to be actively involved in the entire WIWRP Update process.

The two DAC projects in this proposal are multi-benefit and will directly address the needs of their vulnerable populations. The City of Firebaugh project addresses a high priority need to fund a replacement well that will significantly enhance the water quality for the community. The well that is now major source of water for the community is experiencing arsenic contamination. The City of San Joaquin will implement a water meter installation program for 70% of its residential users projected to reduce consumption by those customers by 20%.